

City of Las Vegas

ARTS COMMISSION
CITY OF LAS VEGAS CITY HALL
495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SECOND FLOOR
CITY CLERKS CONFERENCE ROOM
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89101
CITY OF LAS VEGAS INTERNET ADDRESS: www.lasvegasnevada.gov

MINUTES

September 17, 2015
3:30 PM

ITEMS LISTED ON THE AGENDA MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF THE ORDER PRESENTED; TWO OR MORE AGENDA ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION MAY BE COMBINED; AND ANY ITEM ON THE AGENDA MAY BE REMOVED OR RELATED DISCUSSION MAY BE DELAYED AT ANY TIME. BACKUP MATERIAL FOR THIS AGENDA MAY BE OBTAINED FROM LUANN D. HOLMES, CITY CLERK, AT THE CITY CLERKS OFFICE AT 495 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 2ND FLOOR OR ON THE CITY'S WEBPAGE AT www.lasvegasnevada.gov.

1. [CALL TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR GROGAN called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

PRESENT: CHAIR GROGAN and COMMISSIONERS DEANER, SCHEFCIK, ALVAREZ, ABELMAN, TRIMBLE (via teleconference), TUPAZ, WEINSTEIN and KARPEL

EXCUSED: COMMISSIONERS NOWAK, SCHNEIDER and MICHAELS

ALSO PRESENT: PATRICIA HARRIS, Cultural Affairs Manager, BOB SYLVAIN, Deputy City Attorney, and JACQUIE MILLER, Deputy City Clerk

2. [ANNOUNCEMENT RE: COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETING LAW](#)

Minutes:

ANNOUNCEMENT MADE: This meeting has been properly noticed and posted at the following locations: City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor; Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway; Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue; City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive; Las Vegas Senior Center, 451 East Bonanza Road.

3. [PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS ON THE AGENDA FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED](#)

Minutes:

None.

4.

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[For possible action to approve the Final Minutes by reference of the Project Development Subcommittee of the Arts Commission Meeting and the Special Arts Commission Meeting of August 25, 2015](#)

Motion made by POLLY WEINSTEIN to Approve the Final Minutes of the Special Arts Commission Meeting of August 25, 2015

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

STEPHEN GROGAN, NANCY DEANER, JERRY SCHEFCIK, BRIAN ALVAREZ, MARC ABELMAN, JOHN TRIMBLE, DAVID TUPAZ, POLLY WEINSTEIN, SANDY KARPEL; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-CANDY SCHNEIDER, GLENN NOWAK, STACIE T. MICHAELS

Motion made by JERRY SCHEFCIK to Approve the Final Minutes of the Project Development Subcommittee of the Arts Commission Meeting of August 25, 2015

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

STEPHEN GROGAN, NANCY DEANER, JERRY SCHEFCIK, BRIAN ALVAREZ, MARC ABELMAN, JOHN TRIMBLE, DAVID TUPAZ, POLLY WEINSTEIN, SANDY KARPEL; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-CANDY SCHNEIDER, GLENN NOWAK, STACIE T. MICHAELS

Minutes:

CHAIR GROGAN announced that he would like to defer the approval of the Final Minutes of the Project Development Subcommittee of the Arts Commission of August 25, 2015 until after hearing Item 9; subsequent to the vote on Item 9, CHAIR GROGAN called for a motion to approve.

5. [Report by the Arts Commission Chair regarding monthly summary of current initiatives, cultural events and opportunities \(No Fiscal Impact\) All Wards](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR GROGAN announced the following upcoming events: Oktoberfest at the Historic Fifth Street School on October 3rd; Age of Chivalry Renaissance Festival at Sunset Park from October 9th-11th; 10th Annual Culture Fest on Fremont Street from October 19th-20th; a play at the Las Vegas Little Theater called "Art" from September 4th-20th; and the RISE Festival at the Moapa River Indian Reservation on October 10th.

COMMISSIONER ABELMAN stated that a new theater is opening next to PublicUs, and there will be a play opening on October 15th named "The Membership and a Secret of the Usual Place". He was excited that more events are being brought to the community. Another play will be coming to the Arts Square Theater in the spring. He went to the "Secret Life of Bees", which he thought was an extraordinary play. COMMISSIONER ABELMAN stated that land art is becoming big in Nevada and informed the Commissioners that there will be a screening of "Troublemakers" at the Ace Hotel in Los Angeles.

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ reported that several blocks of the downtown area are being prepared for the upcoming Life Is Beautiful festival. He introduced JOHN DOFFING, Curator of the Life Is Beautiful festival and Proprietor of Walls 360.

MR. DOFFING relocated his company from San Francisco to Las Vegas four years ago. When he was in San Francisco, he created the Hotel des Arts, owned galleries and did a lot of art shows.

He reached out to the Life Is Beautiful organizers and offered to repeat what he had done with the Hotel des Arts in San Francisco. He created the Art Motel, which is the former Town Lodge Motel on 7th Street that has been abandoned for several years. Demolition is currently taking place, and more than 150 artists will transform 24 rooms prior to the festival. The artists range from those who have never exhibited publicly to those who have done museum shows; 80 percent are Las Vegas artists, and 20 percent are from all over the world. Additionally, there will be a mural created by a painting robot built by the UNLV (University of Nevada, Las Vegas) robotics lab; art created by drones; a special mural created by developmentally disabled kids with the help of community muralists; and a 6,000 square foot mural on the roof viewable

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only by satellite or drone.

MR. DOFFING introduced artist CHOR BOOGIE (JASON HAILEY) who will be painting a mural on the back of the motel. His work has been exhibited at the Smithsonian Museum, he has done murals for the San Diego Children's Museum and he painted one of the first rooms at the art hotel in San Francisco.

MR. HAILEY said that he plans to do something beautiful for Las Vegas, and MR. DOFFING mentioned that MR. HAILEY would like to do some walls in the city, is very famous for his spiritual color explosions and described his work as magical.

MR. HAILEY has done projects in San Diego and Australia, and other projects are listed on his website which MR. DOFFING announced is chorboogie.com; MR. DOFFING added that they have done portraits of Jay-Z and Hugh Heffner.

The Art Motel will showcase Las Vegas' creative community and connect the creators and the various art communities. It will be open for three days with a special preview sponsored by Best Buddies on September 23rd from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and he invited the Commissioners to attend. A mural by Best Buddies will be unveiled; this mural will be created by children who will be painting with leaders from the local arts community. MR. DOFFING also announced that the MC (Master of Ceremonies) would be WAYNE NEWTON. MR. DOFFING was proud of this project and pointed out that COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ was one of the participating artists.

In response to COMMISSIONER TUPAZ' inquiry, MR. DOFFING explained that Life Is Beautiful is a for-profit organization, and he is a volunteer Curator trying to create a platform to showcase the city and connect communities.

COMMISSIONER ABELMAN read what BILL IVEY, NEA (National Endowment for the Arts), said as follows: "Any plan that addresses economic growth in urban neighborhood revitalization has to include the Arts. We know we can prove that when you bring artists into a great center of town, that town changes. Artists are great place makers; they are entrepreneurs and they should be the centerpiece of every town strategy for the future."

MR. DOFFING thought that was brilliant. He stated that Meow Wolf, an art collective, will participate in the Art Motel. Meow Wolf received several million dollars from GEORGE R. R. MARTIN, creator of Game of Thrones, to buy a 33,000 square foot abandoned bowling alley; more than 100 artists are employed full-time to create an interactive museum where people can choose their own adventure game to explore the world. The global preview of "House of Eternal Return" will be in two rooms at the Art Motel. Meow Wolf will have a second permanent exhibition located in Las Vegas.

CHAIR GROGAN encouraged MR. DOFFING to maintain his involvement and enthusiasm beyond the Life Is Beautiful festival. The Commissioners took a picture with MR. HAILEY.

COMMISSIONER SCHEFCIK announced that there is a Faculty exhibition at the Donna Beam Gallery through October 10th, and the Recent Acquisitions and Vogel Collection will be at the Barrick Museum for a few more weeks.

COMMISSIONER DEANER distributed and submitted for the record, flyers for the Vegas Valley Book Festival and the Latino Network of Southern Nevada Forum 2015, noting that COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ would be speaking at the latter event. She also reiterated that Oktoberfest will be at the Historic Fifth Street school on October 3rd. She announced that there was a photograph exhibit of buildings in the downtown area in the Chambers Gallery at City Hall from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and encouraged the Commissioners to stop by after this meeting.

CHAIR GROGAN had the additional following announcements: Art in the Park festival in Boulder City on October 3rd and 4th, and the Downtown Brew Festival on October 24th.

6. [Report by staff of the Office of Cultural Affairs regarding monthly summary of current initiatives \(No Fiscal Impact\) All Wards](#)

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Minutes:

COMMISSIONER DEANER reported that a new staff person has been hired in the Office of Cultural Affairs Department, and she will attend the Arts Commission meeting in October.

MS. DEANER announced the following upcoming events: a photograph exhibit at City Hall on September 17th from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.; DENISE DUARTE'S tile installation will be installed on December 31st at the Charleston Heights Arts Center; the Westside School project will be complete in August 2016, and the gates will be installed in May 2016.

7. [Discussion for possible action regarding the Main Street signature sculpture project \(No Fiscal Impact\) Ward 3](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR GROGAN is representing the Arts Commission on the selection committee in the process of selecting an artist for the Main Street signature sculpture project, and he is awaiting the final vote result that reduces the number of artists from 20 to four. The Arts Commission will review the information, and the artists will create a prototype of their art. The Arts Commission will then choose which artist they prefer.

PATRICIA HARRIS, Cultural Affairs Manager, indicated that information regarding which four artists were chosen will be an item on the next meeting agenda.

CHAIR GROGAN was very impressed with the artists and opined that approximately 90 percent of the submitted art was very good; he hoped that the artists would submit for other public art projects.

COMMISSIONER DEANER confirmed that there were 29 applicants, and CHAIR GROGAN stated that they had to make hard decisions to get to four. He anticipated seeing a display of the artists' previous artwork and pointed out that the Arts Commissioners will have to see the range of what the artists are willing to do before they make their decision.

COMMISSIONER DEANER pointed out that the decision makers will be the Public Works Department as it is their funding, but they want to get a consensus from the Arts Commissioners. CHAIR GROGAN mentioned that a representative from Public Works was on the selection committee as well.

COMMISSIONER DEANER announced that 13 of 15 benches have been installed on Main Street, and she passed around photos, which were not submitted as backup.

8. [Discussion for possible action regarding project updates by the PR and Marketing Subcommittee \(No Fiscal Impact\) All Wards](#)

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ spoke with DIANA PAUL, Public Affairs Manager, who is excited to push out PR (Public Relations) regarding the benches. He reported that KCLV Channel 2 wants to come to the next Arts Commission meeting and film the Commissioners and artists they will be discussing for the Main Street signature sculpture project. The goal is to film the process, and they would like to talk to the artist, see the manufacturing process and follow the artist to the installation and ribbon cutting ceremony. They would also like to capture the process of the artists creating the maquettes; the artists will need to be informed about being filmed and have it in their contracts if possible. The desire is to help the public understand the whole process and witness what is taking place.

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ also discussed social media outreach with MS. PAUL, who suggested relinquishing control of the Commission's Facebook page and folding it into the City's main social media channels. The Commission has approximately 800 followers in comparison to the City's 25,000. He said that COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN suggested maintaining both sights temporarily and funneling the information to MS. PAUL.

COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN explained that if content is not posted every day on the Facebook page, nobody will see it or be engaged, and the numbers will not go up. She suggested aggregating arts content for any arts posts the Commissioners post or arts posts they see by adding #artslv. The Public Information Office can search for #artslv weekly on Facebook, Twitter and across the internet; they will find the aggregated information and be able to share it rather than the Commissioners trying to forward information to them.

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COMMISSIONER TUPAZ asked who the Facebook administrator was, and COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ replied that he was, but City staff has taken it over and information is being funneled to them.

COMMISSIONER ABELMAN thought that the Commissioners need to push out as much information as possible through social media and help this effort.

COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN reiterated that putting #artslv in the credits of the posts will aggregate the information. If the Commissioners come up with a lot of content, and post one or two things each day, there is a reason to maintain their Facebook page.

CHAIR GROGAN requested that the PR Subcommittee discuss with the City's Public Relations staff the idea of having a 15 to 30 minute art in the city program where local artists could be interviewed and discuss art events that are coming to town. COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ said that was the goal of getting involved with the creation of art; it gives them a year of content, and they can continue building the art program that way. He stressed the importance of relaying information to MS. PAUL as soon as possible regarding the selection of the final four artists being considered for the Main Street signature sculpture project.

PATRICIA HARRIS, Cultural Affairs Manager, confirmed for COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ that she hoped to have that information by September 21st. CHAIR GROGAN mentioned that there is a process of notifying the artists whether or not they were selected. MS. HARRIS stated that staff would want to notify the artists who were not selected, and the Purchasing and Contract Department would have to do an award.

9. [Discussion for possible action by the Project Development Subcommittee of the Arts Commission Chair regarding the upcoming year's projects and budget allocation \(Not-to-Exceed \\$115,000 Percent for the Arts Fund\) All Wards](#)

Motion made by JOHN TRIMBLE to Approve the following projects: a \$75,000 sculpture for the West Las Vegas Arts Center, \$20,000 for the art banners/equipment; \$10,000 for two \$5,000 micro projects; and \$7,500 for the Scotch 80's gateway sculpture

Passed For: 9; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 3

STEPHEN GROGAN, NANCY DEANER, JERRY SCHEFCIK, BRIAN ALVAREZ, MARC ABELMAN, JOHN TRIMBLE, DAVID TUPAZ, POLLY WEINSTEIN, SANDY KARPEL; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-CANDY SCHNEIDER, GLENN NOWAK, STACIE T. MICHAELS

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER KARPEL explained that the Project Development Subcommittee reviewed the projects proposed by the Commissioners and found that numerous items could be handled by other City agencies, and the funding did not have to come from the Arts Commission budget. She distributed and submitted for the record, information regarding the four projects selected by the Subcommittee in the amount of \$112,500 as follows: West Las Vegas Arts Center sculpture - \$75,000; art banners and equipment - \$20,000; two \$5,000 micro projects; and the gateway sculpture which will have matched funding from the community - \$7,500.

CHAIR GROGAN reiterated that many of the projects Commissioners suggested were being handled by other agencies, and there is a surplus of money that can be carried forward to fund future projects. He thought that the Subcommittee could look at project suggestions on a quarterly basis.

COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN wanted more information regarding the micro projects, and COMMISSIONER KARPEL explained that a micro grant will be given to the artists to complete a mural or small sculpture. COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN wondered if there would be RFQs (Request For Qualifications), and CHAIR GROGAN thought there would be an RFP/RFQ (Request For Proposal) once a location was identified. He confirmed for COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN that money is being allocated for the projects, and it gives the Commission flexibility; COMMISSIONER KARPEL added that the project has to be a piece of art. COMMISSIONER DEANER thought that it would be an RFP since it is not a large sum of money.

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CHAIR GROGAN pointed out that the big project is the Las Vegas Arts Center where COMMISSIONER TRIMBLE identified a need and advocated for it. He encouraged the Commissioners to bring their ideas to the Subcommittee if they identify other locations around the city where art should be placed.

In response to COMMISSIONER ABELMAN'S inquiry, CHAIR GROGAN explained that the Scotch 80's gateway is located at the entrance of Shadow Lane off of Charleston Boulevard. CHAIR GROGAN stated that the community has already spent money on this project for designs, and they have spoken with the Public Works Department to get support. This is a chance for artist participation in the sculpture and signage.

COMMISSIONER ABELMAN asked who was covering Boulder Plaza and the First Street Art Trail, and COMMISSIONER KARPEL replied that Public Works was involved with Boulder Plaza, and there was also going to be a neighborhood survey. COMMISSIONER DEANER stated that the survey will be sent out soon to determine what people want to see in Boulder plaza and whether or not they want the fence removed. As soon as the survey is on Survey Monkey, it will be posted on the City's media, and COMMISSIONER DEANER will notify all of the Commissioners so they can send it to the 18b Arts District and others they know. She had previously suggested setting aside \$50,000 from the Arts Commission for infrastructure.

COMMISSIONER DEANER stated that she is working with Public Works on the First Street Art Trail because they had the original funding for that. There will be banners and more sculptures, and she believed there was money left in the Public Works budget for those.

10. [Discussion for possible action regarding the appointment of Michael Ogilvie to replace Candy Schneider on the Arts Commission \(No Fiscal Impact\) All Wards](#)

Motion made by JERRY SCHEFCIK to Approve the appointment of Michael Ogilvie

Passed For: 12; Against: 0; Abstain: 0; Did Not Vote: 0; Excused: 0

CANDY SCHNEIDER, STEPHEN GROGAN, NANCY DEANER, GLENN NOWAK, JERRY SCHEFCIK, BRIAN ALVAREZ, STACIE T. MICHAELS, MARC ABELMAN, JOHN TRIMBLE, DAVID TUFAZ, POLLY WEINSTEIN, SANDY KARPEL; Against-(None); Abstain-(None); Did Not Vote-(None); Excused-(None)

Minutes:

COMMISSIONER SCHEFCIK knows MICHAEL OGILVIE and has a high opinion of him and what he does. He stated that MR. OGILVIE knows public art inside and out, and has worked with the City, Clark County and Kohler Industries in Wisconsin with their public art programs. He felt MR. OGILVIE would provide a good interface for the Arts Commission and was in favor of appointing him.

COMMISSIONER DEANER was in favor as well; MR. OGILVIE worked in the Office of Cultural Affairs Department and is a good person. She stated that Clark County has an ordinance that states a representative from the City of Las Vegas Office of Cultural Affairs sits on their Commission; she felt it was right that they participate with this Commission, and it would be a good sharing of information. She hoped that in the future they could work towards a Regional Arts Commission.

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ agreed with COMMISSIONERS SCHEFCIK and DEANER. He worked with MR. OGILVIE in the Office of Cultural Affairs Department, and he is a good person, a humble human being and a great artist. COMMISSIONER ABELMAN agreed with the comments that were made and thought this was a great fit.

Subsequent to the vote, CHAIR GROGAN announced that he would be leaving this Commission at the end of November and encouraged anyone who was interested in the leadership role to contact him and he would spread the word. He confirmed for COMMISSIONER ABELMAN that this was a volunteer position and Commissioners could make recommendations; if more than one person volunteers, there may be a secret vote at the October meeting.

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11. [Discussion regarding topics for future agenda items by the Arts Commission. Comments made during this portion of the agenda by individual Commissioners shall refer solely to proposals for future agenda items and any discussion shall be limited to whether or not any such proposed item\(s\) is/are within the purview of the Commission and/or whether such proposed item\(s\) shall be placed on a future agenda. No discussion regarding the substance of any such proposed topic shall occur and no action shall be taken regarding the proposal.](#)

Minutes:

CHAIR GROGAN thought that COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ had someone to speak at the next meeting; COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ stated that it is good for the Commissioners to bring someone from the community to speak at the Commission meetings.

CHAIR GROGAN said that the Main Street Sculpture project would be on the next agenda, as well as election of officers and introduction of the new staff member. He requested that PATRICIA HARRIS, Cultural Affairs Manager, provide the Commissioners with a biography of the new staff member.

COMMISSIONER ALVAREZ said that Snowball the Cat was damaged by graffiti, and MS. HARRIS thought that had been repaired; COMMISSIONER DEANER will follow up.

COMMISSIONER DEANER stated that a staff member from the Office of Cultural Affairs Department would be taking over management of the art collection, and she requested that the Commissioners contact the department if they notice any issues with public art pieces.

CHAIR GROGAN asked the Commissioners to contact him or MS. HARRIS if they had items to add to the agenda.

12. [CITIZENS PARTICIPATION: PUBLIC COMMENT DURING THIS PORTION OF THE AGENDA MUST BE LIMITED TO MATTERS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMISSION. NO SUBJECT MAY BE ACTED UPON BY THE COMMISSION UNLESS THAT SUBJECT IS ON THE AGENDA AND IS SCHEDULED FOR ACTION. IF YOU WISH TO BE HEARD, GIVE YOUR NAME FOR THE RECORD. THE AMOUNT OF DISCUSSION ON ANY SINGLE SUBJECT, AS WELL AS THE AMOUNT OF TIME ANY SINGLE SPEAKER IS ALLOWED, MAY BE LIMITED](#)

Minutes:

DREW GENNUSO appeared on behalf of a licensed medical marijuana dispensary that started a non-profit organization called Cultivate Community. They are interested in working with the Arts Commission and asked if he could speak at the next Commission meeting regarding the non-profit and what they are hoping to do with the community.

CHAIR GROGAN asked MR. GENNUSO to leave his contact information with PATRICIA HARRIS, Cultural Affairs Manager, and COMMISSIONER WEINSTEIN mentioned that the Commission is aware of someone looking for walls.

MR. GENNUSO indicated that there is a wall next to the dispensary, and they want to work with the local artists. He also mentioned that they are licensed as a dispensary in North Las Vegas.

13. [ADJOURNMENT](#)

Minutes:

The meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Jacquie Miller, Deputy City Clerk

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Nancy Deaner, Director of Cultural Affairs

Facilities are provided throughout City Hall for the convenience of disabled persons. Reasonable efforts will be made to assist and accommodate physically handicapped persons. If you need an accommodation to attend and participate in this meeting, please call the City Clerks office at 702-229-6311 and advise of your need at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting. Dial 7-1-1 for Relay Nevada.

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City Hall, 495 South Main Street, 1st Floor
Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway
Grant Sawyer Building, 555 East Washington Avenue
City of Las Vegas Development Services Center, 333 North Rancho Drive